Decontrol of fertilizers industry

941. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

SHRI P.N. SIVA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be" pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided for total decontrol of fertilizers industry;

(b) whether Government also propose to gradually cut subsidy in urea price;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) how the farmers would be helped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) In keeping with the policy of economic liberalisation and reforms, all other varieties of fertilizers except urea have already been freed from price, movement and distribution control. The Government intends moving towards a deregulated regime in all the three types of fertilizers, that is, nitrogen, phosphatic and potassic, after taking into account its fiscal capacity on the one hand and making available fertilizers to the farmers at a reasonable price on the other. It is proposed to translate the intention of the Government into a concrete action plan by formulating a long term policy for the fertilizers sector which would include, *inter-alia,* the Government's decisions on the recommendations made by the High Powered Fertilizer-Policy Review Committee and Expenditure Feforms Commission.

Wildlife population in Uttranchal

† 942. SHRI BALK AVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wildlife population in Uttranchal is decreasing continuously, due to bio-diversity;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the growing number of monkeys and baboons and the scare being caused by them, is a great problem for this hilly State; and

(c) if so, whether Government have made any efforts to arrest the decrease in population of wildlife and to provide relief from the scare of monkeys and baboons in the newly formed Uttranchal State, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No regular census of wild animals except tiger, leopard and elephant is carried out in Uttranchal State. The estimated population of these species during the last two census is as follows:

Year	Popu. lation of:		
	Tiger	Leopard	Elephant
1999	232	1324	1508
2001	251	1961	1507

(b) Baboons arc not found in Uttranchal. The monkey menace is more an outcome of destruction of orchards and tree groves rather than in increase in number.

(c) Awareness! is generated amongst the local population not to provide eatables to monkeys. In extreme cases the notorious monkeys arc captured and translocated.